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Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives

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Report of the Secretary-General**

Addendum

1. During the period from 16 May to 5 September 2002, four additional reports were received from States pursuant to paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 55/149 of 12 December 2000. The relevant information concerning those reports is presented below.

Reports received from States pursuant to paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 55/149

2. **Finland** submitted a report, dated 16 May 2002, referring to an incident involving the Russian Embassy in Helsinki. The report reads as follows:

> On 4 June 2001, a person illegally entered the premises of the Russian Embassy in Helsinki, broke into a car and stole a number of personal effects of one of the members of the administrative staff of the Embassy. The person was charged with a grave breach of public peace, but the case was withdrawn by the Public Prosecutor on account of the death of the accused person.
>
> The Finnish authorities wish to assure the Secretary-General that they take very seriously the duty to take all appropriate action to protect the premises of missions against any intrusion or damage.

* A/57/150.
** This addendum is issued to reflect the contributions received by the Secretary-General after the deadline of 15 May 2002.

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3. **Germany** submitted a report, dated 27 August 2002, referring to an incident involving the Embassy of Iraq in Berlin. The report reads as follows:

> On 20 August 2002, five men of Iraqi citizenship armed with a pistol, tear gas and an electric shock device occupied the Embassy of Iraq in Berlin. They took the chargé d'affaires, his successor and two more Embassy staff members as hostages. During the hostage-taking, the chargé d'affaires and his successor were attacked with tear gas. Two visitors were injured by this tear gas attack but could then leave the premises. After five hours, special police forces, acting with the consent of the Iraqi Government, brought the occupation of the Embassy to an end and liberated the hostages without further casualties. The five perpetrators, who were registered in Germany as asylum seekers (some in 2001 and others in March 2002), have been arrested and will remain in custody until further decision by the court. They claim to belong to an as yet unknown group called "Democratic Iraqi Opposition Germany". On 24 August 2002, two other men suspected of having instigated the hostage-taking were arrested.
>
> Following the incident, the competent authorities of the *Land* Berlin announced that they will examine and, where necessary, improve the security measures of the diplomatic representations in Berlin.

4. **Austria** and **Hungary** reported that there had been no serious violations.

Views received from States pursuant to paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 42/154

5. **Austria** stated that it welcomed the fact that diplomatic and consular missions, as well as international organizations, were installing technically advanced security systems, which would further contribute to the improvement of the level of their protection and security.